

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 11543 071521Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SS-15 ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12
/131 W

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P 071458Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9760
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TELAVIV PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 11543

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, EC, XF
SUBJ: EC NINE POLITICAL DIRECTORS RECOMMEND NO MIDDLE
EAST STATEMENT AT COUNCIL MEETING

1. WE ARE INFORMED THAT THE EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS,
REFLECTING A GENERAL LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR A NEW EC
INITIATIVE ON THE MIDDLE EAST, HAVE PROPOSED THAT NO
ME STATEMENT BE ISSUED AFTER THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
MEETING APRIL 8, DESPITE STRONGLY EXPRESSED EGYPTIAN
DESIRE FOR ONE. FRANCE DID NOT ACTIVELY OPPOSE A
STATEMENT AND WOULD HAVE GONE ALONG WITH ONE IF THERE
HAD BEEN A CONSENSUS IN FAVOR.

2. THOUGH A FORMAL STATEMENT UNLIKELY, THE POLITICAL
DIRECTORS HAVE APPROVED A DRAFT PRESS STATEMENT ON
THE MIDDLE EAST TO BE USED BY THE DANISH PRIME MINISTER
IN THE COURSE OF THE POST-CONFERENCE PRESS BRIEFING.
THE BASIC ELEMENTS OF THE STATEMENT (LANGUAGE ONLY
APPROXIMATE) ARE AS FOLLOWS:

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--EC SUPPORTS UNSC RESOLUTIONS 425 AND 426 ON
THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. ALL OTHER PARTIES
AND COUNTRIES URGED TO SUPPORT THE UN IN PERFORMANCE
OF ITS MISSION THERE.

--DESPITE PROBLEMS IN LEBANON THE SEARCH FOR
PERMANENT PEACE SHOULD CONTINUE. IN THIS REGARD, EC
NINE RECONFIRM THAT SC RES 242 CONSTITUTES THE SOLE

BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN ALL ITS PARTS AND ON ALL FRONTS INCLUDING GAZA AND THE WEST BANK. (THIS, WE ARE TOLD, INSERTED IN SUPPORT OF US EFFORTS.)

--A FINAL SETTLEMENT SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND PROVIDE FOR SECURITY OF ALL STATES IN THE AREA, INCLUDING ISREAL, WITHIN RECOGNIZED FRONTIERS.

--EC STATEMENT OF JANUARY 1977 REMAINS VALID.

3. HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OBVIOUSLY NOT BOUND BY THE DECISIONS OF THEIR POLITICAL DIRECTORS AND WE WERE CAUTIONED ABOVE LANGUAGE MIGHT BE MODIFIED.

HARTMAN

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NNN

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